

# Center Grove Community School Corporation

4800 West Stones Crossing Road  
Greenwood, Indiana 46143-6614  
(317) 881-9326  
FAX (317) 881-0241

July 1, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The school meals program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, school corporations across the country have been operating with the use of a federal waiver that allowed them to feed every child for free through the end of the 2021-2022 School Year. The use of this waiver will not be available this school year and corporations will return to the traditional eligibility requirements for free, reduced and paid meals. This means that for School Year 2022-2023, our school corporation will process free and reduced-price meal benefit applications.

The Food Services Department does have the ability to Directly Certify students who receive SNAP, TANF, some Medicaid, are certified as homeless, migrant, or are wards of the state (foster children). Households who are found to be directly certified will be notified in writing (letter/email in Family Access) of the free or reduced-price meal status prior to the start of school and will not need to complete an application.

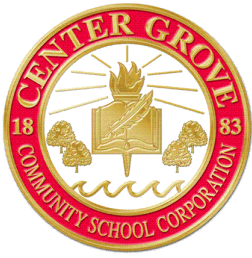
Meal benefit applications will not be available until late July. Households are encouraged to apply before the start of the school year to avoid unpaid meal charges. Students who are not approved for free or reduced-price meal benefits before the start of the school year will be classified as paid status and meal charges may begin to accumulate starting the first day of school. Meal charges accrued before the approval of a meal benefit application will be the responsibility of the household.

**You do NOT need to complete an application if:**

- You receive notification that your child(ren) are directly certified.
- You know your household does not qualify for meal benefits. (Please have money in your child's account on the first day of school.)

**\*Applications received prior to July 1 will not be effective for the 2022-2023 school year.**

Students who had been approved for Free or Reduced-Price Meal Benefits at the end of the 2021-2022 school year will automatically be "rolled over" at that same status for the start of the 2022-2023 school year until September 14, 2022. Kindergarten students approved for textbook assistance at the end of the 2021-2022 school year will have that same eligibility status as first-graders for the first 30 days of school. Families must reapply for assistance.



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**For new applicants, parents/guardians are responsible for the full payment of meals and textbooks until a letter is received from the Food Service Department indicating that your child has been approved for free or reduced-priced meals textbooks.**

A few important reminders:

**\*\*ONLY ONLINE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THE 22-23 SCHOOL YEAR. PLEASE APPLY ONLINE THROUGH YOUR FAMILY ACCESS ACCOUNT\*\***

- One application per household.
- Food Stamp recipients must submit their **ten digit number**
- Medicaid does not automatically qualify students
- All required information must be completed and verification signatures must be electronically signed
- If you wish to receive textbook assistance, you must complete and sign Step 5 on the Textbook Application Form

If the application is not complete, it will be denied; this will delay the processing of your application and affect the eligibility status of your children. An instruction sheet for completing this application has been included with this packet.

Thank you for your cooperation in the completion of the applications for textbook benefits.

Shannon Maples

Director of Food & Nutrition Services